

PROJECT SUMMARY

COUNTY: Yuba County
APPLICANT: County of Yuba – Department of Public Works
PROJECT TITLE: Roadside Fuel Reduction

PROJECT GOAL

Consistent with the Yuba County Roadway Fuel Reduction Plan, and in continuance of ongoing roadside clearing projects, Yuba County seeks to apply for grant funding to facilitate fuel reduction alongside 17.38 miles of County maintained roadway in the Yuba County foothills, an area of which lies within the Central Sierra sub-region as defined by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

In 1997, the Williams Fire in Yuba County destroyed over 100 homes in the Dobbins and Oregon House area. As a result, the Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council identified that heavy fuels along roadways restricted the evacuation of residents and limited fire fighters in battling the fire. Furthermore, University of California studies concluded that the Williams fire contributed to increased ammonia levels and turbidity in the Yuba River watershed.

Over the past five years, with the assistance of the Yuba Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council, Yuba County has received and expended approximately \$1.2 Million in various grant funds to facilitate roadside fuel reduction in the Yuba County foothills. As such, two shaded firebreaks that were created as a result of these efforts have been documented to have prevented two wildfires, resulting in the aversion of a devastating loss of natural resources and potentially millions of dollars in damages.

It is the goal of Yuba County to continue efforts in preventing these devastating wildfires by creating more shaded fire breaks and reducing the amount of vegetative fuel along our roadways. Yuba County seeks to receive funding from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to help supplement this operation which to date has been made possible by two grants from the Bureau of Land Management in addition to grants resulting from Propositions 204 and 40.

PROJECT SCOPE

This project will consist of the removal of accumulated vegetative fuel along Frenchtown Road, Forbestown Road and portions of New York House and La Porte Roads to total 17.38 miles of County maintained roadways. This will create shaded firebreaks to help prevent and/or combat the outbreak of devastating wildfire. Each of these roadways is heavily traveled, serve as emergency access and evacuation routes as well as contain a significant amount of residences that are especially susceptible to damages caused by wildfire.

This work will include all labor to identify, remove and properly dispose of fuel material as well as provide administrative duties associated with this project. The project, when complete, will reduce the impacts caused by fires to the Feather and Yuba River

watersheds by limiting erosion subsequent to fires typically encountered in the region. Consistent with project outcomes as detailed by the SNC, this project will protect, conserve and restore the region's physical and living resources, aid in the preservation of working landscapes, reduce the risk of natural disasters such as wildfire and to protect and improve water and air quality.

Yuba County has and will continue to maintain a partnership with the Yuba Water Protection & Fire Safe Council for project planning based on fire science as well as the California Department of Forestry via the Washington Ridge Conservation Camp for a significant labor contribution in accomplishing these feats.

This project represents a portion of the work to be completed per the Yuba County Hazard Mitigation Plan, a project that has already completed approximately \$1.2 million of work.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Included with this application packet are letters of support from the following agencies:

- Yuba Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council
- Dobbins/Oregon House Fire Protection District

SNC PROJECT DELIVERABLES AND SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Application Completion and Submittal	09/01/2008
SNC Board Authorization	12/31/2008
Fuel Reduction Work Begins – Frenchtown Road (7.98 miles)	03/01/2009
Fuel Reduction Work Begins – New York House Road (0.5 miles)	05/15/2009
Fuel Reduction Work Begins – Forbestown Road (3.3 miles)	06/15/2009
Fuel Reduction Work Begins – La Porte Road (5.6 miles)	08/01/2009
Project Completion Prior to Peak Fire Season (Late Summer through Autumn)	10/01/2009
Six Month Progress Report	10/01/2009
Final Report	12/31/2009

SNC PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Administration Expenses – Grant Application Process (82 hours estimate)	\$4,090
Roadside Fuel Clearing – Frenchtown Road (7.98 miles @ \$10,000 per mile)	\$79,800
Roadside Fuel Clearing – New York House Road (0.5 miles @ \$10,000 per mile)	\$5,000
Roadside Fuel Clearing – Forbestown Road (3.3 miles @ \$10,000 per mile)	\$33,000
Roadside Fuel Clearing – La Porte Road (5.6 miles @ \$10,000 per mile)	\$56,000
Administration Expenses – Reporting and Invoicing (92 hours estimate)	\$4,600